

September 10th, 2018

Dear Board of Education members,

Fall term is fast approaching! While we are busy planning for inservice and gearing up for fall term course prep, I'll give a brief synopsis of the PTFA's activities over the last couple of months.

Part-Time Faculty Fall Retreat

Being our first ever fall retreat, we decided to develop a modest schedule of 4 hours. Several part-time faculty joined the planning committee to create an agenda very similar to our inservice activities in April. Spring inservice was so successful and we received so much positive feedback about the experience, it seemed appropriate to stick with a structure that people found value in. We will be hosting another Dean Panel where Katie Winder, Leslie Hammond, Dave Becker, and Kristina Holton will participate in a round table discussion on issues important to our members. We will also offer a number of workshops revolving around important college processes such as understanding payroll, accessing professional development funds, and participation in college councils. Additionally, we are providing the opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of some part-time faculty fellows and faculty researchers from the previous year. Once again, Ann Buchele has been incredibly supportive in the process, providing funding for pay and advice and feedback on the agenda.

Update on Data Sharing Processes

The theme of the summer could be "The best laid plans often go awry". Or perhaps "Never plan collaborative projects over summer". With so many planned vacations between the parties involved in creating new and more efficient ways to share data about our bargaining units, we have yet to nail down a time for all pertinent groups to come to the table. Scott Rolan tells me that HR has made good progress working with the division admin assistants to find ways to get data sooner in the term, and I hope to soon sit down with representatives from HR and the Banner team to hash out the details.

Member Recruitment

Bea Michalik, our Vice President of Membership, and I have begun fleshing out new ways to facilitate contract education and membership outreach to part-time faculty, both new and current. We are developing a three pronged approach that focuses on connecting with new hires early in the term, individual outreach to current faculty, and sustained communication methods throughout the year. The keystone to some of our plans rely on better data sharing, and highlights the need to make significant progress on data sharing. This also ties into our fall retreat, as we will be discussing the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling has had on the PTFA during the retreat.

Welcome to the Newest Elected Officials in the PTFA

Rob Griffin from the criminal justice department joins the team as our Vice President of Negotiations! His efforts on the negotiation team in 2015 and 2016 brings valuable experience to our team and we are very happy to have him on board. Esther Chapman from the math department has been re-elected as PTFA secretary, and I have also been re-elected as President for a three year term, so it looks like you are stuck with me for a while!

Sincerely,
Miranda Dudzik
PTFA President